

**COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY, INFORMATION POLICY,  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS AND THE CENSUS  
CONGRESSMAN ADAM PUTNAM, CHAIRMAN**



**MEDIA ADVISORY**

**For Immediate Release  
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**Sharing of Nation's Map-Related Data Means  
Less Government Waste and Better Service**

**What:** Technology, Information Policy, Intergovernmental Relations and the Census Subcommittee hearing: **"Geospatial Information: A Progress Report on Improving Our Nation's Map-Related Data Infrastructure."**

**When:** Tuesday, June 10, 2003, 10:00 a.m.

**Where:** Room 2154, Rayburn House Office Building

**Background:**

The purpose of the hearing is to examine the progress being made by the federal government to consolidate and improve utilization of the masses of geospatial data being collected by departments and agencies across the federal government and by state and local governments. In most cases, information is collected in different formats and standards for one specific mission, with little attention to subsequent intergovernmental data sharing. **This results in wasteful redundancies and a reduced ability to perform critical intergovernmental operations.**

**One component of the President's key E-Government Reforms is the *Geospatial Information One-Stop Initiative*. This program aims to simplify the process of locating, accessing, sharing and integrating geospatial information in a timely and efficient manner. The initiative would encourage greater coordination among federal, state, and local agencies about existing and planned geospatial data collections.**

The hearing will also evaluate the important role the private sector plays in collecting data, arriving at cost efficiencies, and improving geospatial data quality for end users.

There are tens of thousands of entities securing and utilizing an almost infinite amount of data for their individual goals and missions – not to mention emerging “new” uses of geospatial data. Therefore, the development and use of common data standards, and an organizational and management structure to coordinate these investments, is more critical than ever if we are to reduce redundant expenditures, provide the most up-to-date information, and improve the availability of accurate data for public and private uses.

**Panel One Witnesses:**

**Mark A. Forman**, Administrator of E-Government and Information Technology, Office of Management and Budget;

**Scott J. Cameron**, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Performance and Management, Department of Interior; Chairman, Geospatial One-Stop Board of Directors; and

**Linda D. Koontz**, Director, Information Management, U.S. General Accounting Office.

**Panel Two Witnesses:**

**Susan W. Kalweit**, Chairman, Interagency Geospatial Preparedness Team, FEMA (DHS); Former Deputy Chief, NIMA North America and Homeland Security Division;

**Gene Trobia**, President, National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC);

**Jack Dangermond**, President and Founder, ESRI, Inc.; and

**C. Michael Ritchie**, President, Management Association for Private Photogrammetric Surveyors (MAPPS).

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